

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) allegedly as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,145,119 to House *et al.* ("House") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,558,413 to Schmidt *et al.* ("Schmidt").

According to the office action, applicants' previous arguments were considered not persuasive because the claim limitations did not disclose or suggest that the database items are text streams and binary streams. (*November 14, 2002 Office Action #1*). Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the items are database items that comprise a text stream and a binary stream. Therefore, applicants have amended the claim per the Examiner's suggestion and have not raised a new issue.

Furthermore, according to the office action, applicants' previous arguments were considered not persuasive because the office action did not interpret the claim limitations as disclosing or suggesting that the Applicants' have "another database, separate from the SCC." (*November 14, 2002 Office Action #3*). Applicants apologize for any confusion that the term "another" may have caused. Applicants used the phrase "another database" in the previous response because Schmidt described an "SCC database." As previously noted, although House and Schmidt both mention the word "database" in various contexts, combining House with Schmidt simply suggests replacing Schmidt's SCC database with House's standard database. Yet, there is no suggestion in either House or Schmidt to combine a database along with an SCC system (or a SCC database), as with the present invention. Therefore, the combination of House and Schmidt does not obviate the present invention.

Also, the previous office action suggests that the Examiner did not "find or interpret the claim limitations of claim 1-22 as "storing an updated version both in the SCC system and

in a database.” (*November 14, 2002 Office Action #2*). With all due respect to the contentions in the office action, claim 15 expressly recites that upon the user selecting the stream of the database item in the SCC system, the present invention saves the stream of the database item in the source SCC system as the stream of the database item in the database. Similar limitations are recited in claims 8, 12, and 13. Therefore, the updated version may be stored in both the SCC system and in a database. There is no such teaching in either Schmidt or House. This is to be expected because both references are motivated by providing an SCC system for the modification of the standard computer program, located within a single storage location (*Schmidt* – column 4, lines 3-22).

Applicants note that throughout the claims the term “item” has been amended to “database item.” These amendments are not made for purposes related to patentability, nor to change the scope of the invention. Instead, these amendments make explicit what already was implicit in the claims (*i.e.*, that the items are database items), and thus are made simply to further facilitate the understanding of the claim language.

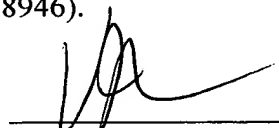
Finally, in claim 10, “system” has been amended to be “stream.” This amendment is made to overcome a typographical error in the claims as originally filed, and is not made for substantive purposes related to patentability.

Accordingly, for the reasons cited above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-22 under 35 USC §103 (a) be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner cannot allow the present application for any reason, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' attorney Vincent J. Roccia at (215-564-8946).

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Marked up versions of claims 1-8, 10-18, which are amended herein, showing all of the changes relative to the previous version of each.

1. A system, comprising:
  - a first program to manipulate [an] a database item;
  - a database having the database item, wherein the database item comprises a text stream and a binary stream;
  - a source code control (SCC) system to store versions of the database item; and
  - a second program to check in and check out the database item, such that modification of the database item is restricted when the database item is checked out.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the first program comprises an editor program to edit the stored database item.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the first program requests to check out the database item such that the second program checks out the database item to the first program.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the second program provides the first program a choice of one or more different versions of the database item at the source code control (SCC) system and one or more different versions of the database item at the database.
5. The system of claim 4, wherein the version of the database item at the source code control (SCC) system is identical to the version of the database item at the database.
6. The system of claim 4, wherein the version of the database item at the source code control (SCC) system is different than the version of the database item at the database.
7. The system of claim 1, wherein the first program requests to check in the database item  
such that the second program checks in the database item into the source code control (SCC) system.
8. The system of claim 7, wherein the second program checks in the database item into the source code control (SCC) system as saved to the database.
10. A computer-implemented method to check out [an] a database item from a source code control (SCC) system, comprising:

comparing a stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system with a stream of the database item in a database;

determining whether the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system is identical to the stream of the database item in the database;

upon determining that the [system] stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system is different than the stream of the database item in the database, providing a user a choice to select one of the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system and the stream of the database item in the database; and

checking out the database item selected by the user, such that modification of the database item is restricted when the database item is checked out.

11. The computer-implemented method of claim 10, further comprising, prior to comparing:

retrieving the stream of the database item from the source code control (SCC) system; and

retrieving the stream of the database item from the database.

12. The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein upon the user selecting the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system, saving the stream of the database item in the SCC system as the stream of the database item in the database.

13. A computer-implemented method to check in [an] a database item into a source code control (SCC) system comprising:

retrieving a stream of the database item from a database; and

saving the stream of the database item in the database as the stream of the database item in the SCC system.

14. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, further comprising prior to retrieving, saving the stream of the database item to the database.

15. A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for execution by a computer to perform a method, comprising:

comparing a stream of [an] a database item in the source code control (SCC) system with a stream of the database item in a database;

determining whether the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system is identical to the stream of the database item in the database;

upon determining that the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system is different than the stream of the database item in the database, providing a user a choice to select one of the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system and the stream of the database item in the database;

checking out the database item selected by the user; and

upon the user selecting the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system, saving the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system as the stream of the database item in the database.

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, the method further comprising prior to comparing:

retrieving the stream of the database item from the source code control (SCC) system; and

retrieving the stream of the database item from the database.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, the method further comprising:

retrieving a stream of the database item from a database; and

saving the stream of the database item in the database as the stream of the database item in the source code control (SCC) system.

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, the method further comprising prior to retrieving, saving the stream of the database item to the database.